CLAIMS

1. A massaging apparatus comprising:

at least one massaging element rotatable within a housing, and extending therefrom to manipulate a subject's tissue, when the apparatus is applied to the subject; and

said apparatus further including a radiant heat source for applying heat to the tissue.

2. The massaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein said radiant heat source provides radiant heat having a wavelength in the range of 600 nm to 1500 nm.

3. The massaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein said at least one massaging element comprises at least one substantially spherical massaging element.

4. The massaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein said at least one massaging element comprises at least one substantially cylindrical massaging element.

5. The massaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein said at least one massaging element comprises at least two massaging elements.

6. The massaging apparatus of claim 5 wherein said at least two massaging elements are mounted on a single axis.

7. The massaging apparatus of claim 5 wherein the at least two massaging elements are mounted on two separate axes.

8. The massaging apparatus of claim 7 wherein the two separate axes are aligned.

9. The massaging apparatus of claim 7 wherein the two separate axes are in tandem.

10. The massaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein the at least one massaging element is motor-driven.

11. The massaging apparatus of claim 10 wherein the at least one massaging element is motor-driven using chain coupling between the motor and an axis.

12. The massaging apparatus of claim 10, wherein the at least one massaging element is motor-driven using belt coupling between an axis and the motor.

13. The massaging apparatus of claim 10 wherein the at least one massaging element is motor-driven using friction coupling between an axis and the motor.

14. The massaging apparatus of claim 10 wherein the at least one massaging element is motor driven using gear coupling between the axis and the motor.

15. The massaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein said radiant heat source for applying heat to the tissue is a separate heat source removed from the at least one massaging element.

16. The massaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein the radiant heat source is located in the at least one massaging element.

17. The massaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein the radiant heat source is within an axis of the at least one massaging element.

18. The massaging apparatus of claim 5 wherein the radiant heat source is within at least one axis of said at least two massaging elements.

19. The massaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein the radiant heat source is in an outer portion of the at least one massaging element.

20. The massaging apparatus of claim 5 wherein the radiant heat source is in an outer portion of at least one of the at least two massaging elements.

21. The massaging apparatus of claim 1 including a vacuum within the housing.

22. The massaging apparatus of claim 20 including a nozzle for applying the vacuum to the housing.

23. The massaging apparatus of claim 6 wherein the at least two massaging elements mounted on a single axis are spherical elements.

24. The massaging apparatus of claim 9 wherein the at least two massaging elements mounted on the axes in tandem are cylindrical elements.

25. The massaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein the at least one massaging element has an irregular surface.

26. The massaging apparatus of claim 5 wherein at least one of said at least two massaging elements has irregular surfaces.

27. The massaging apparatus of claim 1 wherein the at least one massaging element has a smooth surface.

28. The massaging apparatus of claim 5 wherein the at least one of said at least two massaging elements has a smooth surface.

29. The massaging elements of claim 27 wherein the at least one massaging element is Teflon coated.

30. The massaging elements of claim 27 wherein the at least one massaging element is metallic.

31. A massaging apparatus comprising:

at least one massaging element within a housing and extending therefrom, for manipulating a subject's tissue;

said at least one massaging element being substantially spherical; and

a motor coupled to said at least one massaging element for rotating said at least one massaging element.

32. The massaging apparatus of claim 31 including a radiant heat source for applying heat to the tissue.

33. The massaging apparatus of claim 31 wherein said at least one massaging element comprises at least two massaging elements.

34. The massaging apparatus of claim 31 wherein chain coupling is used to couple said motor to said at least one massaging element.

35. The massaging apparatus of claim 31 wherein belt coupling is used to couple said motor to said at least one massaging element.

36. The massaging apparatus of claim 31 wherein friction coupling is used to couple said motor to said at least one massaging element.

37. The massaging apparatus of claim 31 wherein gear coupling is used to couple said motor to said at least one massaging element.

38. The massaging apparatus of claim 33 wherein the at least two massaging elements are mounted on a single axis.

39. The massaging apparatus of claim 33 wherein the at least two massaging elements are mounted on two separate axes.

40. The massaging apparatus of claim 39 wherein the two separate axes are aligned.

41. The massaging apparatus of claim 39 wherein the two separate axes are connected.

42. The massaging apparatus of claim 39 wherein the two separate axes are in tandem.

43. The massaging apparatus of claim 32 wherein the at least one massaging element has a smooth surface.

44. The massaging apparatus of claim 32 wherein the at least one massaging element has an irregular surface.

45. A massaging method comprising:

massaging a subject's tissue; while

providing radiant heat that substantially passes through the skin and heats the fat of the subject.

46. The massaging method of claim 45 wherein the radiant heat has a wavelength in the range of 600-1500 nm.

47. A massaging apparatus comprising:

at least two axes in tandem;

at least two spherical massaging elements on each of said at least two axes; and

a heat source providing radiant heat that passes through the skin and heats the underlying fat.

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